lity criteria for grant of Special loans towards part of the promoters contribution have been liberalised to enable the individual mills to take the benefit of the Fund.

Chief Justice's statement on disposal of pending cases in the Supreme Court

1135. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the newly appointed Chief Justice of India on assumption of his office has stated that steps would be taken to quickly dispose of the pending cases;

(b) if so, what measures would be taken to dispose of the pending cases in the Supreme Court;

(c) what is the number of cases at present pending in the Supreme Court; and

(d) by when the pending cases are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Supreme Court has already taken various measures to dispose of the pending cases, such as, grouping of matters regarding common questions of law, dispensing with printing of appeal records in most cases, constitution of specialised benches, amendment of Supreme Court Rules empowering Judges in Chambers to dispose of certain type of matters and filing of written arguments and restricting oral arguments.

(c) As on 30-6-1989, 208799 cases were pending in the Supreme Court.

(d) It is not possible to specify the time by which the pending cases will be disposed of.

Release of funds to NTC for reimbursing cash losses

1136. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any proposal has been cleared to release funds to NTC for reimbursing their cash losses;

(b) if so, what amount was released yearwise; and

(c) What steps are being taken to check losses in NTC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The Government has been reimbursing the cash losses incurred by NTC mills, through budgetary support, in the form of working capital loans. A statement showing the amount released to NTC, on this account, from the year 1975-76 to 1988-89 is attached. (*See below*).

(c) NTC has drawn up a new short-term and long-term strategy for bringing about a turn-around. This strategy covers, among other things phasing of uneconomic activities, selective modernisation with the help of institutional finance, product upgradation and diversification, increased production of blended yarn and fabrics, greater push in exports and labour rationalisation under Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

Statement

Amount released to NTC (Holding Company), New Delhi by the Government, through budgetary support, as working capital loans, during the years 1975-76 to 1988-89.

Year	Amount released (Rs. in crores)
1975-76	72.90
1976-77	34.77